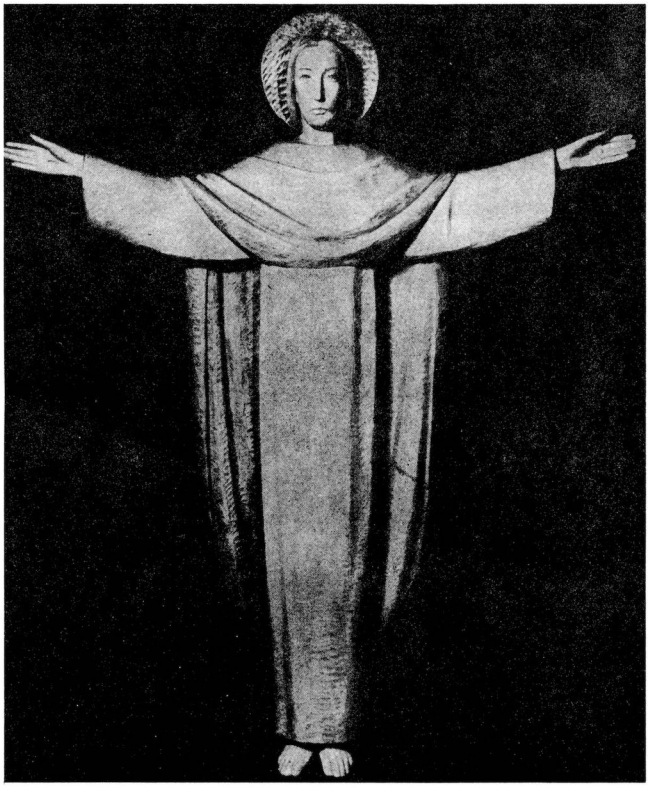
A BOOKLET OF DEVOTION TO OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST IN THE BLESSED SACRAMENT



Compiled by The Right Reverend William H. Brady,
Bishop of Fond du Lac, Retired

Dear Friends:

I am quite sure I do not deserve the title "Compiler" of this little devotional aid. I came across it about twenty-five or thirty years ago and have found it very helpful to myself and to my people throughout my Ministry. In the course of years, I have added material and made some rearrangement. We, of the Parish Press believe it supplies a very real need in the Church. It provides a person with splendid material for a half hour in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. I have used it on Maunday Thursday, at other days of devotion and for personal use with many people. We have all been greatly enriched by it and we pray that those who use it in the future will be blessed as we.

Faithfully yours,

+ William H. Brady

Bishop of Fond du Lac, Retired

REPARATION

Begin by reading Psalm 32 in the Prayer Book

HYMN OF REPARATION

"Because I've often fled Thy Light
Unfailing, leading, calmly bright
To realms beyond the world's dark night
O Sacred Heart, I come.

"Because I've often sought to shed
Some crown of suffering instead
Of looking up to Thee Who bled
O Sacred Heart, I come.

"Because I've often ceased to bear
The Cross which I was called to share
With Thee, most willing me to spare
O Sacred Heart, I come.

"Because I've often loved the sound
Of other voices whispering round
And failed to hear Thy throbbing wound
O Sacred Heart, I come.

"Because I've often spurned the flame
Of Thy dear love that's e'er the same
Now sorrow feel and filled with shame
O Sacred Heart, I come."

"When revelation draws aside the veil, what we behold is not an incensed Deity rising in wrath to take vengeance upon us, but a God with a Broken Heart hanging upon the Cross where we have nailed Him".

What have I done to help our Lord to the Cross?

For this — and this — and this, I am sorry and offer reparation, dear Lord.

Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

O God, the Father of Heaven,
O God the Son, Redeemer of the world,
O God the Holy Ghost, Sanctifier of the Faithful,
O Jesu, the only begotten Son of God,
O Jesu, the Son of God Incarnate,
O Jesu, born of the Virgin Mary and made Man for us.

Have Mercy Upon us.

Be merciful,
Hear us, O Lord.
Be merciful,
Spare us, O Lord.

O Jesu, by Thy agony and bloody sweat,
O Jesu, by Thy grievous scourging at the pillar,
O Jesu, by Thy being crowned with thorns,
O Jesu, by Thy bearing Thine own cross,
O Jesu, by Thy dread crucifixion
O Jesu, by Thy precious death and burial,
O Jesu, by Thy glorious Resurrection and Ascension.

Spare us O Lord.

For all our slothfulness and self-indulgence,
For all our prayers, thoughtlessly said,
For all who neglect to pray,
For the unbelief of those who could know Thee, if they would,
For our sins of gossip, criticism, and fault-finding,
For our sins of anger, pride, and selfishness,
For sins of cowardice and failure to uphold our Lord's teaching,
For the sins of impurity in all who are baptized,
For the neglect of fasting and alms giving among Christians,
For the coldness, indifference, and inconsistency in the lives of Church people,
For the bitterness of judgment,
For our independence of spirit,
For our self-esteem,
For our over-sensitiveness,
For our fear of being humbled and despised,
For our fear of being rebuffed and calumniated,
For our fear of being ridiculed and suspected,
For our self-assertiveness which leads the soul to depend upon itself,

We offer our reparation O Lord.

For all our sins for which Thou didst suffer and make reparation.
We beseech Thee to deliver us, O Lord.

That we may practice purity of life and conversation,
That we may grow in patience and humility,
That we may be zealous for our Lord's honor,
That we may cultivate the love of neighbor, in word and deed,
That by perseverance in love and reverence and self-denial, our Lord's will may be done.

We beseech Thee to grant us.

Lord, have mercy,
Christ, have mercy,
Lord, have mercy.

O Lord, who for our sake didst fast forty days and forty nights; Give us grace to use such abstinence, that, our flesh being subdued to the Spirit, we may ever obey they godly motions in righteousness, and true holiness, to thy honour and glory, who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. Amen.

Almighty and everlasting God, who hatest nothing that thou hast made, and dost forgive the sins of all those who are penitent; Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of thee, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For all carelessness in preparation for Confession and Holy Communion,
For all neglect of thanksgiving after receiving Holy Communion,
For all acts of irreverence to our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament,
For so many unworthy Communions,
For the carelessness and neglect of priests and people,
For the souls who pass Thee by in Thy Sacrament and to whom it is as nothing,
For the souls who visit Thine Altar, yet know Thee not in the reality of Thy manifestation,
For the souls whose thoughts, even at the hour of Communion with Thee, are set on earthly things.

We offer our reparations O Lord.

We beseech Thee to hear us, Good Lord.

That Thou wouldst have mercy upon us, and spare us,
That Thou wouldst accept our sorrow and humility,
That Thou wouldst increase faith and reverence in all people,
That Thou wouldst endue all with zeal for Thine honor and glory.
That Thou wouldst incline all hearts to worship and receive Thee worthily,
That Thou wouldst make known to all, Thy love in this Holy Sacrament of the Altar.

We beseech Thee to hear us, O Lord.

O Lord Jesus Christ, Who hast willed to abide with us always in this Wonderful Sacrament, thus ever glorifying Thy Father by the memorial of Thy passion, and giving unto us the Food of Life; Grant us grace to grieve with a hearty sorrow for the insults offered this Holy Mystery, and to repair, so far as lies in our power, and with sincere love, the many dishonors Thou still continuest to receive in this Holy Sacrament, Who livest and reignest with the Father in the Unity of the Holy Ghost, One God, world without end. Amen.

Because we are professing Christians, and so little different from non-professing Christians in our likeness to Thee,
Because though professing the faith of Christ Crucified, we shrink from closer union with Thee because of the suffering involved in carrying the Cross,
Because we have been so slow in bringing to the heathen nations the message of Thy redeeming love,
Because as unjust stewards, we have not labored to rectify the misery and unhappiness in the world as though we cared nothing for Thine honor.

We offer Thee our reparation, O Lord.

That in spite of Thy great Sacrifice and what it cost Thee to reconcile us to the Father, we are yet unwilling to be obedient like Thee,

"My sins hurt Jesus more than the scourge;
My sins hurt Jesus more than the crown of thorns;
My sins hurt Jesus more than the nails;
He loves me, and gave Himself for me."

For those who are contemplating suicide,
For those who are intemperate,
For those who are out for sin,
For all prisoners, especially those who are condemned to death.

We offer our reparation O Lord.

O God, Who desireth not the death of a sinner, but his repentance, most mercifully regard the weakness of our mortal nature, and by Thy goodness strengthen our endeavors, that of Thine infinite mercy we may obtain pardon for sins, steadfastness in Thy service, and finally, with joy, the rewards promised to those who persevere unto the end, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

For a little wasted time — (For this Jesus labored 3 to 30 years).
For a little slothfulness — (For this Jesus left Himself no leisure, no not so much as to eat).
For wandering thoughts in prayer — ("And being in agony Jesus prayed yet more earnestly.")
For a little self-indulgence — (For this Jesus hungered, thirsted, bore cold and nakedness, the scourge, the cross and crown of thorns.)

Picture our Lord in the Garden of Gethsemane.

1. He enters the Garden with the eleven.
2. He goes forth with Peter, James and John, and His soul becomes heavy.
3. He leaves the disciples, saying, "Watch with Me."
4. We see Him fall to the ground, saying, "If this be possible, let this cup pass."

5. He returns and finds the three sleeping: (Consider His loneliness— His longing for sympathy).
6. He departs again to pray, "Thy will be done" An angel comforts Him — What do I do to make up for the indifference of those who pass Christ by?
7. The sweat falls as blood to the ground.
8. He rises to find His disciples again sleeping and departs to pray a third time — perseverance in prayer.
9. He goes to meet Judas, who betrays Him with a kiss — "While we were yet sinners He loved us."
10. His disciples forsake Him and flee — (The saddest of all questions — "Will ye also go away?"

Pray for the gift of prayer as the means whereby we learn God's will and by which our wills are conformed to His; that we may never fail through weakness or fear or ridicule; and that we may never allow adversity or the failure of the creatures to turn us away from God.

O God Who in the Garden of Gethsemane didst tread the winepress alone and taste beforehand the solitude of Thy Passion; teach us daily to persevere in the way of prayer, that in our hours of loneliness and desolation we may seek and find ready strength to do Thy will, this we ask for Jesus sake.

O Sacred Heart of Jesus, filled with infinite love, broken by my ingratitude, pierced by my sins yet loving me still, accept the consecration that I make to Thee of all that I am and all that I have. Take every faculty of my soul and body, and only draw me day by day nearer and nearer to Thy Sacred Side, and there as I can bear the lesson, teach me Thy blessed ways. And in the hour when smarting thorns come to pierce my sensitive nature, give me strength to welcome them and to grow by slow degrees more and more like Thee. Amen.

For blessing and guidance on the Presiding Bishop,

For blessing and guidance on the Bishop of our diocese.

For blessing and guidance on the Clergy of our parish.

Almighty and everlasting God, from whom cometh every good and perfect gift; Send down upon our Bishops, and other Clergy, and upon the Congregations committed to their charge, the healthful Spirit of thy grace; and, that they may truly please thee, pour upon them the continual dew of thy blessing. Grant this, O Lord, for the honour of our Advocate and Mediator, Jesus Christ. Amen.

O God of peace, who hast taught us that in returning and rest we shall be saved, in quietness and in confidence shall be our strength; By the might of thy Spirit lift us, we pray thee, to thy presence, where we may be still and know that thou art God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O God, by whom the meek are guided in judgment, and light riseth up in darkness for the godly; Grant us, in all our doubts and uncertainties, the grace to ask what thou wouldest have us to do, that the Spirit of Wisdom may save us from all false choices, and that in thy light we may see light, and in thy straight path may not stumble; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

"Ye call Me Master, and obey me not;
Ye call Me Light, and see Me not;
Ye call Me Way, and walk Me not;
Ye call Me Life, and desire Me not;
Ye call Me Wiser, and follow Me not;
Ye call Me Fair, and love Me not;
Ye call Me Rich, and ask Me not;
Ye call Me Gracious, and trust Me not;
Ye call Me Noble, and serve Me not;
Ye call Me Mighty, and honor Me not;
Ye call Me Just, and fear Me not;
If I condemn you, blame Me not;

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed by thy Name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, On earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

HAIL Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

I BELIEVE in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth: And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary: Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried: He descended into hell; The third day he rose again from the dead: He ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty: From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost: The holy Catholic Church; The Communion of Saints: The Forgiveness of sins: The Resurrection of the body: And the ✠ Life everlasting. Amen.

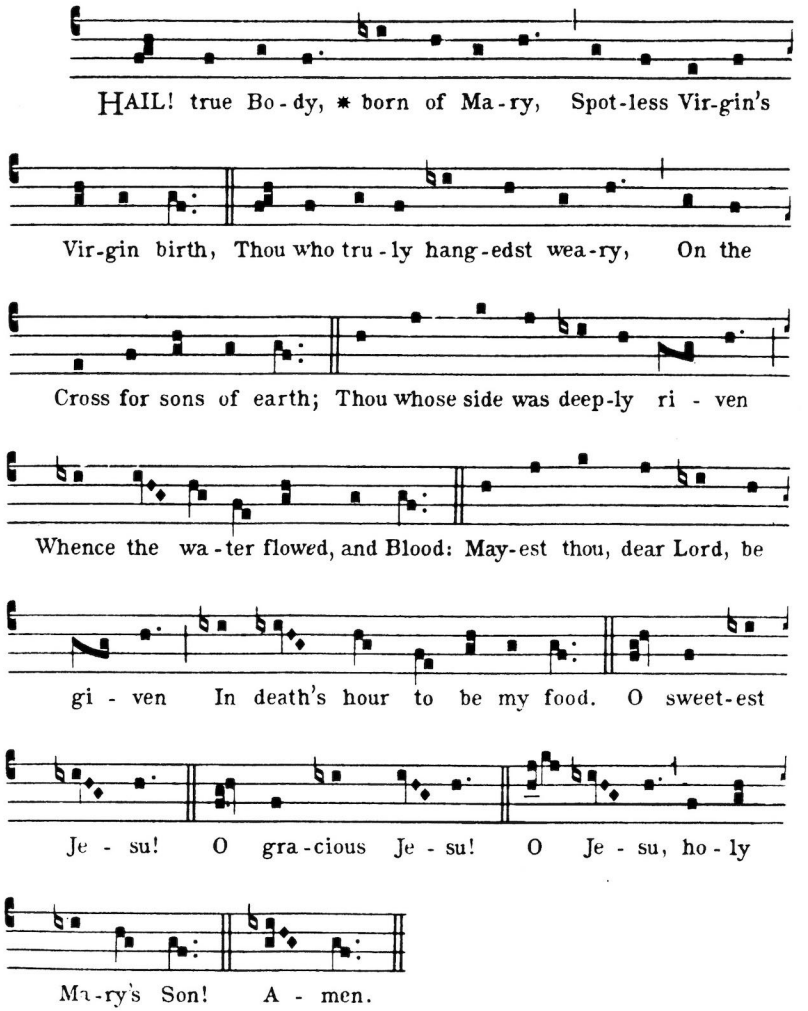
ANIMA CHRISTI

Soul of Christ, sanctify me.
Body of Christ, save me;
Blood of Christ, inebriate me;
Water from the side of Christ, wash me;
Passion of Christ, strengthen me;
O good Jesu, hear me;
Within thy wounds hide me;
Suffer me not to be separated from thee;
From the malicious enemy defend me;
In the hour of my death call me,
And bid me come to thee.
That with thy Saints I may praise thee
For ever and ever. Amen.

O Lord, Who in this wonderful Sacrament has left us a Memorial of Thy Passion; Grant us, we beseech Thee, so to reverence the Sacred Mysteries of thy Body and Blood that we may perpetually find in ourselves the fruit of Thy Redemption; Who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, One God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Pardon, O Father, the imperfections of our prayers and praises, our wandering thoughts and lack of devotion. Look not upon us, but upon the Face of Thine annointed and see us only as we are seen in Him. For His Sake, accept us, penitents at the Throne of Grace, and grant that what we have said with our lips, we may believe in our hearts and practise in our lives, through Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

THE DIVINE PRAISES

Blessed be God.
Blessed be His Holy Name.
Blessed be Jesus Christ, Very God and Very Man.
Blessed be the Name of Jesus.
Blessed be the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus.
Blessed be Jesus Christ in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar.
Blessed be the Holy Ghost the Lord and Giver of Life.
Blessed be the Mother of God, the Blessed Virgin Mary.
Blessed be Saint Joseph, her husband
Blessed be God in His Angels and in His Saints.

Ave Verum